



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

1201 ELM STREET, SUITE 500  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75270

Office of the Regional Administrator

July 26, 2021

Charrance Ball  
Environmental Air Specialist  
Shell Technology Center Houston  
3333 Highway 6 S  
Houston Texas 77082-3101  
[Charrance.Ball@shell.com](mailto:Charrance.Ball@shell.com)

Dear Mr. Ball:

On March 31, 2020, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) issued a Management Alert (<https://www.epa.gov/office-inspector-general/report-management-alert-prompt-action-needed-inform-residents-living-near>) that identified an urgent need to educate and inform residents around these facilities about the health hazards of ethylene oxide (EtO) after the 2014 National Air Toxics Assessment was released. As EPA pursues its mission to protect human health and the environment, addressing risk related to EtO is a priority for the Agency. EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan has directed several EPA Regions to update information on emissions and risk in areas identified in the 2014 National Air Toxics Assessment. Administrator Regan has made it clear that EPA will lean forward and conduct community outreach to ensure all communities are informed, especially those that are underserved.

As one of the eight Texas and Louisiana chemical plants identified in the OIG Management Alert, the EPA has completed a facility/area specific technical assessment for your facility identified below.

Shell Technology Center  
3333 Highway 6  
Houston, Texas 77082

This letter is to notify you that we will be releasing the technical assessment and will soon announce a virtual community meeting to provide residents and public officials near the Shell Technology Center facility with information about EtO and its health effects, including community-specific risk information. Enclosed please find an advance copy of the technical assessment report. This information will be available and shared at the community meeting and will be made available on the EPA website later this week.

We are appreciative of your cooperation and activities to voluntarily reduce and/or more accurately report emissions of ethylene oxide from your facility. We encourage you to continue to control emissions of ethylene oxide from your facility.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me at (214) 665-2100 or Frances Verhalen at 214-665-2172.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David W. Gray". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a stylized "G".

David W. Gray  
Acting Regional Administrator

Enclosure: Technical Assessment Report Shell Technology Center